



## **Spring 2024 Studio Policy**

### **Teaching Philosophy**

My goal is to provide my students with a quality music education in which they develop a love and appreciation for music. I want to provide them with the necessary skills to make music on their own and throughout their lives. Whether or not my students choose to pursue music as a career, I hope my students will continue to enjoy making music, grow in their confidence, and desire to share their love of music with others.

### **Schedule**

Each student will be given a weekly lesson time at the beginning of the semester. Lessons will begin and end on time with no time being added for late arrivals. Studio event reminders will be sent out via e-mail or text. Semester dates will be given at the start of the semester but may be subject to change.

Spring lessons will begin **January 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>** and will continue through **April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>**. The studio will be open for all other school holidays during the semester except for the CMCSS spring break from March 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>. In the event of a school closing for weather, lessons will be offered virtually that day via Zoom, Facetime, or Google Meet.

Studio events this semester will include a studio class, spring recital, at the NFMC Festival (optional event for students).

**Studio Class** (at Milner Music Studio)- February 22nd from 3:00pm-4:15pm.

At the studio class, students will have the opportunity to meet each other and perform pieces for their peers. Mrs. Erika will also cover a music theory topic with a group activity. During the week of the studio class, students will not have their private lesson but should attend the studio class.

**NFMC (Nat'l Federation of Music Clubs ) Festival**- March 16<sup>th</sup> at Austin Peay State Univ.

Returning students can choose to participate in the NFMC Festival. Students will memorize and perform 2 pieces for a judge. Students will receive feedback and receive a score. Students can participate in other events such as music theory or sight-reading. Students receiving a superior rating can perform in an honors recital the following day.

**Spring Recital**- May 2024, date TBD, Kirkwood Church, Clarksville TN

### **Make-up Lessons**

Attendance at lessons is vital to a student's progress. If a lesson must be missed, contact the teacher at least 24 hours in advance. In the event of sudden illness or other extenuating circumstances, please contact as soon as possible, and a decision will be made on a case-by-case

basis regarding a make-up lesson. There are two make-up options available. These options allow me to continue to provide the best service to my students while not over-extending myself to make-up lessons.

1. Option 1- Lesson over Zoom or Facetime. Lessons can be made up virtually during the normal lesson time. Ex- family member is sick, and the student can't get to the studio for their lesson.
2. Option 2- Make up lesson days (May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>) Students can make-up one lesson in person during their normal lesson time.

Please note-Students who are a no-show for a weekly lesson or tardy to a lesson may not receive a make-up for that lesson.

### **Respect for Studio Instruments/Equipment**

Students should respect all instruments and equipment used during lessons. If the instrument or equipment is damaged, the student or their parent is responsible to pay for the repair or replacement cost.

### **Lesson Tuition**

What does tuition cover?

Lesson tuition covers multiple services I offer to each student. In addition to individual lessons, tuition covers the following: time preparing for student's lessons, recital costs and other event expenses, professional organization memberships, continuing education and workshops, my level of expertise, taxes as a small business owner, student accompanying, and other general studio expenses. I want to make lessons as affordable as possible while also ensuring I can give a high-quality experience to each student.

Rates for the Spring Semester:

Weekly 30-minute lessons - \$450 per semester (includes \$20 registration fee, 14-private lessons, studio class, and recital)

### **Tuition Payment**

1. Lessons may be paid in the following ways:
  - a. 1-payment plan- Lessons will be paid for at the beginning of the semester (paid at first lesson).
  - b. Monthly payment plan- Lesson payment will be due by the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month (except January) Monthly payment will be for Jan, Feb, March, and April.
2. Acceptable forms of payment are check, cash, or credit card.
3. If payment is not received on time, there will be a \$15 late fee added to the payment. If a check is returned, there will be a \$25 fee and any bank charges that are incurred.
4. Signing up for lessons is a semester commitment. Except in extenuating circumstances, students who enroll in a monthly plan are expected to pay for the full semester.

## **Required Materials**

1. All students will need a folder or binder to keep lesson handouts. Students need access to a metronome (can be an app on phone). Students will be responsible for ordering teacher suggested music books for their lessons. The teacher will share what books to purchase at or prior to the first lesson. Piano students will need access to a home piano/keyboard for home practice.
2. All students are encouraged to purchase a practice/assignment book from the list below. These are all available on Amazon or other online retailers.

Voice students (elementary age)

- *Singing lesson practice planner and journal* (any theme) by Nikki Loney

For voice/piano students (middle school to adult)

- *The Music Student's Practice Journal: Tracking Your Artistry for Success* by Olivia Ellis and David Dorrough

## **Practice**

Practice is essential to a student's success in lessons. Practice is expected and vital to improving as a musician. Practice times, goals, and methods will be discussed in lessons and will fit the student's ability level and age. Please let me know how I can help you or your student learn methods to improve practice at home. Parents are highly encouraged to take part in their child's practice sessions, especially when they are a beginner. Students will complete a practice goal sheet at the beginning of the semester and fill out weekly practice logs to track progress.

## **Other Miscellaneous Information**

1. Parking-Please Park on the street in front of the house or in the driveway. However, please be sure not to block the mailbox. Parents may wait in their cars, watch the lesson, or wait in the rocking chairs on the front porch.
2. Restrooms- Students and family members are welcome to use the hallway bathroom in our home.
3. Cat Allergies- The Milner household has two cats and wants to make students aware in case of an allergy.

## **Contact Information**

Phone: 931-401-3660; E-mail: [milnermusicstudio@gmail.com](mailto:milnermusicstudio@gmail.com); Address: 3708 Misty Way

By signing below, I have read and agree to follow the above policy for lessons for the 2024 Spring semester.

Parent Signature/Adult Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_